



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TRAINING BULLETIN

March 2008

National Fire Academy Launches New Online Training System

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Emmitsburg, MD , Jan. 25, 2008 — The U.S. Fire Administration's National Fire Academy is pleased to announce the launch of a new web-based online training system *NFAOnline*. *NFAOnline* provides an easy one-stop website where fire and emergency services personnel, first responders, emergency management personnel, and the general public will find free training and education programs that they can complete at their own pace.

"Now is the time for us to embrace the future and improve our education through distance learning," said NFA Superintendent, Dr. Denis Onieal. "*NFAOnline* provides another option to help further the professionalism of the nation's fire and emergency services and strengthen their ability to combat all hazard emergencies."

NFAOnline provides a "user-friendly," state-of-the art training system with technical support and the ability for the student to immediately print a certificate and transcript. The primary effort of *NFAOnline* is to make available training and materials for the fire service, particularly those unable to attend resident courses in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

There are currently several courses available in the new *NFAOnline*. Additional courses are in development and will be added as they become available. Course subjects include Community Safety Educators, Fire Service Supervision, ICS 100 and ICS 200, Emergency Response to Terrorism, and Emergency Medical Services.

To enroll in *NFAOnline*, visit www.NFAOnline.dhs.gov and browse the course catalog through the 'New Students' option.

Message from someone on the other side.

Subject: Lesson I learned from Las Vegas hotel fire

This past weekend I learn a huge lesson in patience. We were victims of the Monte Carlo fire in Las Vegas and I can tell you that as frustrating as it was they did a great job in taking care of us. We were downstairs gambling when the fire alarm went off. But older son was upstairs and it took several calls to make him understand that the situation was real. He thought it was just a false alarm. We got out, we watched the fire from across the street. We called everyone that was in the group and created a meeting area, then gathered information. The fire started at 11am, and by 5:00 pm we had secured another room in a different hotel. The Fire Marshall released the hotel for guest to be escorted to their rooms at 9pm to get their belongs. They called everyone to let them know. By 10pm we had our stuff. The firefighters and hotel personnel were very kind and sincere about everything. It was not a fun day, but if I can help other make this situation easier this is what I can pass along.

PLEASE POST NOTICE ON YOUR FIRE STATION BULLETIN BOARD / FORWARD TO YOUR EMAIL LIST.

Need information about the Firefighter Training System? Call Chief John Buckman 317-417-3695 or jbuckman@dhs.in.gov



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TRAINING BULLETIN

First of all if the fire alarm goes off in your hotel - Don't think of it as a false alarm - take it seriously and grab what you can, as quickly as possible and get out!!!! If it's a false alarm - it will only go off once, for a short time.

Find someplace safe, if a restaurant or other buildings are nearby - go there sit down and wait. The televisions will provide information. Find a TV.

Once to safety find out what hotels are affiliated with the one you were staying at - if that is the one on fire. Or one that is close by. It took about two hours before they started sending people to other hotels for the night. So once you find out about the hotel, then go to the Concierges Desk and ask about rooms.

In our situation they set up various check in points for verification of guest, hot line information, food, medical assistance and information updates. Our worst problem was walking - we went to three places before we were able to sign in and get information. Since we were in Vegas - they had to close down each of the information areas due to scheduled events. If we had just sat down and waited we would have been able to have gone to one place and checked in.

Be patient. They will pass information along as it is provided. Hot line numbers and check-in places were provided on the TV. There's nothing you can do to change the situation, so be patient. I don't wish this situation on anyone, but hopefully you'll remember my experience if this should ever happen to you.

This message came from a family member who has no experience in the emergency services. I found it interesting to hear what they thought.

Steve Walters, Firefighter Training Program Manager IDHS

Firefighter Certification

When a student desires to receive an IFSAC gold seal certificate with qualified courses the student shall submit a payment of \$20 PER seal by check or money order made payable to the IDHS. An example is if a student desires IFSAC certificate for Firefighter I/II state cortication the IFSAC fee is \$40 because you will receive two IFSAC gold seals certificates.

Firefighter Safety Initiatives

Be sure to check out this very informative web site.

<http://www.in.gov/dhs/4178.htm>

IDHS's Training Calendar

Check out the training calendar, updated daily.

<https://oas.in.gov/hs/training/public/calendar.do>

REMINDER

FDIC Conference April 7th through the 12th in Indianapolis, Indiana. Go to

<http://fdic08.events.pennnet.com> for a complete list of classes and register for great training opportunities.

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